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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method of preparation of a series of mail items in which postal indicia are printed on the mail items when creating an indicium for a mail item after the first  
5 mail item, a determination is made as to whether an indicium created for a previous mail item in the series has not been used for example because the mail item was spoiled or removed. If a previously prepared indicium remains unused, a substitute indicium is created. The  
10 substitute indicium is a modification of the unused indicium and contains an indication that it is a substitute indicium.

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